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## NORTH FARMS

*North Branford, CT*

North Branford was originally part of the Totoket settlement (purchased in 1638 from the Indian chief Montowese). The Totoket area was bounded on the south by Long Island Sound, on the west by the Stony River (Farm River) and the Great Pond (Lake Saltonstall). At that time, the northerly areas of the Branford/Totoket settlement were primarily cleared for orchards and farming and were known as "North Farms." North Branford was incorporated as a town in 1831. As a lasting commemorative of the nation's bicentennial in 1976, a 77-acre tract of land on the Branford River was purchased for a park and, in a town-wide contest, named North Farms, the original designation of the area. North Farms Park has three primary trails with varying degrees of difficulty.

The Yellow Trail is designed to be a safety trail that can be used by all ages with little or no hiking skills needed. The trail runs northeast to the Branford River. Once across the river, this trail runs north to south. The Orange Trail is also a relatively easy trail. This is a short trail located in the northeastern part of the park. It connects the northern portions of the Yellow and White Trails. This trail virtually divides the park in half. The White Trail is the most difficult trail and requires some expertise in hiking skills. The trail runs north along the perimeter of the park and leads to the Branford River where there is no way to cross at the present time. The trail is picked up on the northeastern side of the river and intersects with the northern end of the Yellow Trail and continues southeasterly along the perimeter. At the eastern point it intersects with the Orange Trail and then continues to Valley Road.

This area has a steep incline. The trail then turns to the southwest and descends on a steep hill which leads to the area of the old dams where the trail dead ends at the Branford River. This is also the intersection of the Yellow Trail at its southern point. On the southwestern corner of the park, the White Trail heads north thru moderate woods and climbs a steep up-grade to the southern end of the open field.

*Photograph by the North Branford Recreation Department*



### Directions and Parking:

I-95 to Exit 56 (Route 146, Leetes Island Road, Stony Creek, Branford). Take Leetes Island Road (Route 146) north. Go to the traffic light, the USS Chowder Pot restaurant is directly in front of you. Take a left onto Route 1 (East Main Street) and then immediately take a right onto School Ground Road. Follow School Ground Road until you come to a "T"-intersection with Route 139 (North Branford Road). Take a right. The entrance to North Farms Park will be roughly 1/2 mile to 1 mile on your right.

### Permitted Activities:

This property is for passive use only. No wheeled vehicles are permitted. No picnicking is available. The trail is for hiking only. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please bag and remove any dog waste.

### For more information about this location, contact:

Town of North Branford  
Parks and Recreation  
(203) 315-6017

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0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles

